Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—"May I know why the Board of Revenue also made up its mind and submitted its proposals two months in advance of the ryots concerned submitting their objections ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"The proposals have to be framed by some responsible authority. There were discussions in past years in this Council in regard to this matter and the procedure finally settled was that the report should come from the Board of Revenue, it should be published and that the Government should then receive and consider representations. The settlement officer's proposals have to be reviewed by the chief revenue authority, the Board of Revenue, before they are published."

Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU :—"What I want to know is this: Why should the Board of Revenue send up the report with remarks two months prior to 30th June ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"It is the Board of Revenue that is responsible for the scheme that is published for criticism. Although the scheme was sent up by the settlement officers the Board of Revenue is responsible for the scheme."

Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU :—"In the answer to clause (a) it is stated that the Special Settlement Officer will receive and submit representations to the Government for consideration through the Board of Revenue. Is it expected that the Board of Revenue would pass certain remarks when the representations are sent by the settlement officer through the Board of Revenue ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"I do not understand why they should not."

Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU :—"Is it expected that the Board would express remarks contrary to what it has already said ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"If the objections contained in the representations are weighty, why should they not ?"

Proposals of the Special Settlement Officer for resettlement in Godavari and Kistna districts.

*25 Q.—Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether the Government will lay on the table of the House the letters of the Special Settlement Officer, R.O.C. No. 249/B. & C. of 1926, dated 6th May 1926 and 17th June 1926, containing his proposals for settlement on ordinary lines of villages which hitherto remained unsettled ?

A.—The Government will consider the suggestion.

Alleged "detailed economic enquiries" in selected villages in Godavari and Kistna districts.

* 26 Q.—Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU : With reference to the statement in paragraph 32 of the scheme report for the resettlement of Godavari and Kistna districts that "*detailed economic enquiries*" were made in selected villages, will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what are the names of the villages in which those enquiries were made ;

3rd September 1928]

(*b*) whether the said enquiries were made publicly or in secret ;

(*c*) what are the headings under which the said economic enquiries were made ;

(*d*) whether the said economic enquiries were made by the Settlement Officer himself or by his assistants ; and if made by the assistants, who they were ; and

(*e*) whether there is any report or reports embodying the results of the said enquiries ; and if so, whether they will be placed on the table of the House ?

A.—(*a*) Detailed economic enquiries were made in 24 typical villages. Seven of these were Malleswaram, Nandivada, Machavaram, Likhitapudi, Vemavaram, Nallamilli and Velagaleru. The Government do not know the names of the other 17 villages.

(*b*) The enquiries were made publicly by the officers during their tour in the villages.

(*c*) No set of headings have been prescribed. It is left to the discretion of the Special Settlement Officer to make such enquiries as will enable him to form a correct opinion about the economic condition of the village in which the enquiries are made.

(*d*) The enquiries were made by the officers attached to Settlement Parties Nos. I and II. The Government have no information as to who were the particular officers who made the enquiries.

(*e*) The results of the enquiry have been incorporated in paragraphs 32, 34—37, 38 and 40 of the scheme report which has been published.

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—" With reference to the answer to clause (*a*) of this question may I know how it is that the Government know the names of only seven villages and do not know the names of the other 17 villages where detailed economic enquiries were alleged to have been made ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" I presume their names are not mentioned in the report."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—" May I know what steps have been taken to see that these enquiries are not merely casual and one-sided ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" The enquiries are statistical and are made by responsible officers."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—" Am I to understand that the officers were not asked to make enquiries with regard to any definite headings ? May I know what are the steps taken by the Special Settlement Officer or the Government to see that these alleged enquiries are not merely casual and one-sided ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" I feel no reason why the enquiries should be called casual or one-sided."

Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU :—" May I know if there is any record kept as to the number of witnesses examined, number of documents looked into and materials collected during the course of these enquiries ? "

[3rd September 1928

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"The material collected is there. It is not a question of examining witnesses and taking the opinion of the people."

Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU :—" As regards the facts collected, is there any record kept ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" The report contains these facts."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" The enquiries are reported to have been made in public. Was due information given to the public about the time and place of the enquiry ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" For such details I must ask for notice."

Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU :—" Were any ryots present at the enquiry ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" I presume they were."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" In view of the fact that the officers attached to Settlement Parties I and II made enquiries, may I know whether the Special Settlement Officer issued any instructions to them as to how these enquiries have to be conducted ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" I believe there are detailed instructions on the subject and if the hon. Member will kindly repeat the question I will collect the information."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Questions were taken up at 20 minutes past 11. We shall therefore continue the questions till 20 minutes past 12."

Names of villages in Godavari and Kistna districts selected for collection of statistics relating to the sale and lease value of land.

12 noon. * 27 Q.—Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU : With reference to paragraph 34 of the scheme report for the resettlement of Godavari and Kistna districts, will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state what are the names of the villages selected for the collection of statistics relating to the sale and lease values of land ?

A.—The names have been called for and on receipt will be communicated to the hon. Member and laid on the table.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" With reference to the answer given to this question, may I know why, in view of the admittedly defective character of the report ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" I do not admit it."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I say, Sir, that the report makes no mention of the villages dealt with by the special officer. The Government promise information. What is to happen if the information is not furnished by 31st March 1929, the date fixed for the receipt of objections ? Should not the time in such a case be extended still further ?"

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—" I hope the information when obtained would be communicated to me and also placed on the table."

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" Certainly."